

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
-TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE-**

September 4, 2003

MINUTES

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES SUMMARIZE ACTIONS THE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE TOOK AT THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2003 MEETING. AUDIOCASSETTE TAPES OF THE MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG OFFICES.

The Southern California Association of Governments Transportation and Communications Committee (TCC) met at SCAG offices in Downtown Los Angeles. There was a quorum.

Voting Members Present

Mayor Lee Ann Garcia, Chair
Councilmember Harry Baldwin
Councilmember Ron Bates
Councilmember Lou Bone
Councilmember Art Brown
Supervisor Yvonne Burke
Mayor Lawrence Dale
Vice Mayor Gene Daniels
Mayor Bill Davis
Councilmember Joy Defenbaugh
Councilmember Judy Dunlap
Mayor Richard Dixon
Councilmember Bonnie Flickinger
Councilmember Gary J. George
Councilmember Carol Herrera
Mayor Pro Tem Peter Herzog
Mayor Pro Tem Sandra Jacobs
Mayor Pro Tem Tim Keenan
Vice Mayor Robin Lowe
Councilmember Lowenthal
Supervisor Judy Mikels
Councilmember Llewellyn Miller
Councilmember Pam O'Connor
Mayor Pro Tem Greg Pettis
Mayor Bea Proo
Councilmember Jeffrey Reinhardt
Mayor Tod W. Ridgeway
Mayor Ron Roberts
Supervisor Charles V. Smith
Mayor Pro Tem Cameron Smyth
Mayor David A. Spence
Councilmember Dick Stanford
Councilmember Paul Talbot
Councilmember Sidney F. Tyler, Jr.
Councilmember Tonia Reyes Uranga

Representing

City of Grand Terrace
City of San Gabriel
City of Los Alamitos
City of Tustin
City of Buena Park
County of Los Angeles
City of Barstow
City of Paramount
City of Simi Valley, VCTC
Riverside, WRCOG
City of Inglewood
City of Lake Forest
City of Moreno Valley, WRCOG
City of Redlands, SANBAG
City of Diamond Bar
City of Lake Forest, Orange County COG
City of El Segundo
City of Cypress, Orange County COG
City of Hemet, RCTC
City of Long Beach
County of Ventura
City of Claremont
City of Santa Monica
City of Cathedral City, CVAG
City of Pico Rivera
Las Virgenes Malibu Subregion
City of Newport Beach
City of Temecula
County of Orange County
City Santa Clarita, North LA County
City of La Canada Flintridge, Arroyo Verdugo Cities
City of Azusa
City of Alhambra
City of Pasadena
City of Long Beach

Voting Members Absent

Supervisor Paul Biane
Mayor George Cole
Councilmember Cathryn DeYoung
Mayor Pro Tem John R. Fasana
Councilmember Eric Garcetti
Mayor Larry Grogan
Councilmember Robert Hunter
Mayor Patsy Marshall
Councilmember Keith McCarthy
Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Miller
Councilmember Keith Millhouse
Mayor Mark Nuaimi
Mayor Gary Ovitt
Councilmember Nick Pacheco
Councilmember Will Pieper
Mayor Pro Tem Tom Sykes
Councilmember Linda Wilson
Council Member Dennis Zine

Representing

County of San Bernardino
City of Bell, Gateway Cities COG
City of Laguna Niguel
City of Duarte, SGVCOG
City of Los Angeles
City of El Centro, IVAG
City of Victorville
City of Buena Park, Orange County COG
City of Downey
City of Corona
City of Moorpark, VCOG
City of Fontana, SANBAG CTC
City of Ontario
City of Los Angeles
Desert Hot Springs, CVAG
City of Walnut
City of Manhattan Beach, South Bay Cities COG
City of Los Angeles

Voting Members, Not Elected Officials Present

Rose Casey

Representing

Caltrans, Los Angeles

Voting Members, Not Elected Officials Absent

Board Member
Rotating Board Member

Representing

California, DOT
Air Resources Board

Transportation Commissions – Vacant

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lee Ann Garcia, Chair called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Jim Stewart, representing the Southern California Coalition on the Environment, spoke in support of the Planning and Programming TAC's (PEP TAC) recommendation to increase preservation and operation funding that Tarek Hatata would be presenting later in the meeting. Mr. Stewart urged the Members to adopt Mr. Hatata's recommendations.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

The following consent calendar items were MOVED (Arthur Brown) SECONDED and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED:

3.1 Approval Item**3.1.1 July 31, 2003 Meeting Minutes**

3.2 Receive and File

3.2.1 Intergovernmental Review Clearinghouse Report

3.3 Receive and File

3.3.1 SCAG Legislative Matrix

4.0 ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Baseline Revenue for the Draft 2004 RTP

Annie Nam, Senior Regional Planner at SCAG, presented the item. Ms. Nam presented a brief overview of the financial plans for the 2004 RTP. She provided information about three base-line financial scenarios (Low, Medium and High). She stated that in order to address funding deficits, a set of guiding principles and strategies were developed and approved by the Highway and Transportation Finance Task Force.

It was MOVED, SECONDED and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to support the Highway and Finance Task Force recommendation employing the “Low” financial scenario as outlined in the presentation. The low scenario would generate approximately \$120 billion over the plan period.

4.2 2004 RTIP Guidelines

Rosemary Ayala, Lead Regional Planner at SCAG presented the item. She stated that the new guidelines centralize the information that counties need to ensure the legal, administrative, and technical aspects of the RTIP process.

With regards to the suggested Rideshare goal contained within the guidelines, Mr. Ron Bates, representing the City of Los Alamitos raised a concern about the system being used to provide the populace with information about Rideshare. Mr. Hasan Ikhata representing SCAG responded that the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) taskforce is addressing the issue. It was decided to refer the matter to the TDM task force.

It was MOVED, SECONDED, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to support the release of SCAG’s improvement guidelines.

4.3 Transportation System Preservation

Mr. Tarek Hatata of the System Metrics Group (SCAG Consultant) presented the item. He stated that the Planning and Programming Technical Advisory Committee (P&P TAC) had discussed and evaluated preservation needs for the Region’s transportation system and that current trends indicate that there is a significant shortfall for the preservation requirements of the transportation system.

It was MOVED, SECONDED, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to support the recommendation by the Plans and Programs Technical Advisory Committee (P&P

TAC) to adopt the proposed funding increase over current trends for system preservation.

4.4 State Highway System Operation

Mr. Tarek Hatata of the System Metrics Group (SCAG Consultant) presented the item. He stated that system expansion couldn't keep pace with increasing demand and that investments in operational strategies are essential to recapture the lost productivity of the Region's freeway system. He mentioned a variety of operational improvements and Transportation Management Systems (TMS) to achieve the 2004 RTP goal of "Maximizing the productivity of our transportation system."

Mr. Hatata discussed a decline in gas tax revenues, which was then discussed by Mr. Hasan Ikhrata who indicated the urgency of adhering to Federal Highway standards and the enormous importance of the gas tax in providing the resources required.

It was MOVED, SECONDED, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to approve the Plans and Programs Technical Advisory Committee (P&P TAC) recommendation to adopt the proposed funding increase over current trends for State Highway Systems Operations.

4.5 Linkage of Draft 2004 RTP Policies to Goals and Performance Objectives

Mr. Tarek Hatata of the System Metrics Group (SCAG Consultant) presented the item. He reviewed four discussed provided by TAC to provide a strong linkage with adopted goals. TAC recommends adopting the first three policies and dropping the fourth policy since it is implicitly embodied in the 1st policy. He stated that the TAC believes that the three "linked" policies provide clarity, specificity and guidance to the RTP development process and recommended their adoption to guide the remainder of the 2004 RTP development process. However, a lengthy discussion ensued relative to the merits of incorporating the fourth policy that had to do with ensuring that HOV Gap Closure projects are given a priority in the RTP.

It was MOVED, SECONDED, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to approve the P&P TAC recommendation to adopt the proposed policies with the modification to add the fourth policy strengthening the relationship between the adopted goals and performance objectives.

Approved policies read as follows:

Policy #1 – Transportation investments shall be based on SCAG's adopted Regional Performance Indicators.

Policy #2 – Ensuring safety, adequate maintenance, and efficiency of operations on the existing multi-modal transportation system will be RTP priorities and will be balanced against the need for system expansion investments.

Policy #3 – RTP land use and growth strategies that differ from currently expected trends would require a collaborative implementation program that identifies required actions and policies by all affected agencies and sub-regions.

Policy #4 – HOV gap closures that significantly increase transit and rideshare usage will be supported and encouraged, subject to Policy #1.

5.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Transportation System Performance

Mr. Tarek Hatata of the System Metrics Group (SCAG Consultant) presented the item. He stated that as directed by the Community, Economic and Human Development Committee to evaluate growth scenarios, SCAG developed five scenarios including three technically derived scenarios and two scenarios developed by the growth visioning initiative (referred to as infill and fifth ring).

Mr. Hatata stated that these scenarios were modeled and showed that the infill and fifth ring scenarios performed better than the technical scenarios. He stated that SCAG staff and consultants were in the midst of reviewing these results so that they can incorporate pragmatic land use changes to the baseline upon which to develop the draft plan.

5.2 Financial Constraint and Transportation Conformity

Ms. Rosemary Ayala, Lead Regional Planner at SCAG presented the item. She stated that a shortfall existed in the State Budget signed by Governor Davis on August 2, 2003. As a result, federal agencies (the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration) released a letter indicating that Caltrans and SCAG must provide updated financial information sufficient to demonstrate that the 2002 RTIP is financially constrained before the federal agencies approve any new RTIP amendments. She stated that as a result of this letter, TCRP funding shortfalls will adversely impact projects in the 2002 RTIP.

Mr. Charles Keynejad, Senior Regional Planner at SCAG added that a daunting task lay ahead: SCAG and the County Transportation Commissions must reallocate funds from other sources to cover losses from the TCRP funds in the first two fiscal years of the 2002 RTIP. He continued by stating that it may be necessary to amend the 2002 RTIP.

6.0 JOINT HIGHWAY/FINANCE AND RTDM REPORT

The Joint Highway/Finance and RTDM were included as a written report in the Agenda packet.

7.0 MAGLEV TASK FORCE REPORT

Mr. Ron Bates of the City of Los Alamitos presented the item. He mentioned how Jumpstart's value was being increasingly understood by labor unions. He also discussed not having funding for the \$1 Million Match that needed to advance MAGLEV. He further stated that SCAG would convene a meeting with the executive committee to examine strategies ensuring ongoing funding.

8.0 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES COALITION (RTAC) REPORT

The Regional Transportation Agencies Coalition (RTAC) Report was included as a written report in the Agenda packet.

9.0 CHAIR REPORT

Ms. Lee Ann Garcia, Chair from the City of Grand Terrace announced two workshops concerning the RTP Process on Thursday, September 11, 2003 and Monday, September 29, 2003.

10.0 STAFF REPORT

Mr. Hasan Ikhata of SCAG announced an Economic Conference in Orange County on November 13, 2003.

11.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Regional Rideshare
Report on 710 Tunnel

12.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Carol Herrera from the City of Diamond Bar was introduced as a new delegate.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Lee Ann Garcia, adjourned the meeting at 12:06 pm. The next Transportation and Communications Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 2, 2003.



Hasan Ikhata, Director,
Planning & Policy Department